

To: R6Press[R6Press@epa.gov]
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Thursday, May 03, 2018

region6news

Arkansas, Louisiana, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas, and 66 Tribal Nations

**Please note: All articles are available in the attached PDF.*

**To receive the Daily News Digest in your inbox, email R6Press@epa.gov.*

1 — Waste Pits removal longer than expected, design phase to be completed by 2020 – Baytown Sun 5/3/18

http://baytownsun.com/news/article_a13f255a-4e71-11e8-bb76-dbbf3b455fe1.html

The San Jacinto River Waste Pits have made monumental progress in the Superfund process, but according to environmental watchdogs, there's still a long road ahead.

2 — EPA partly sides with enviros in challenge to Texas refinery – E&E 5/2/18

<https://www.eenews.net/eenewspm/2018/05/02/stories/1060080681>

A coalition of environmental groups has won a split decision from EPA on its challenge to the operating permit for a Brazilian-owned oil refinery near Houston. In an order posted online today, EPA officials agreed with the Environmental Integrity Project and three other organizations that the Texas-issued permit for the Pasadena facility was lacking in part because it did not ensure compliance with the emissions limits for some of the plant's boilers and other equipment.

3 — NM Congressional Delegation Welcomes New San Juan Watershed Monitoring Program – LA Daily Post 5/2/18

<https://www.ladailypost.com/content/nm-congressional-delegation-welcomes-new-san-juan-watershed-monitoring-program>

U.S. Senators Tom Udall (D-N.M.) and Martin Heinrich (D-N.M.) and U.S. Representatives Steve Pearce (R-N.M.), Ben Ray Lujan (D-N.M.) and Michelle Lujan Grisham (D-N.M.) welcomed the launch of a new program to develop and implement long-term water quality monitoring for the San Juan River watershed. The delegation secured \$4 million in the omnibus that was signed into law last month for the program.

4 — In Oklahoma, Critics Say Pruitt Stalled Pollution Case After Taking Industry Funds

<https://www.npr.org/2018/05/02/607180065/in-oklahoma-pruitt-ended-environmental-unit-declined-to-push-pollution-case>

Scott Pruitt, the current head of the Environmental Protection Agency, first came to national prominence back when he was Oklahoma's attorney general. In that role, he sued the agency he now runs 14 times, in a series of court cases alleging overreach by the federal government. Environmentalists in Pruitt's home state say Pruitt was much less aggressive when it came to enforcing Oklahoma's environmental laws and going after polluters. An examination of Pruitt's record on environmental issues in Oklahoma shows that Pruitt's positions were often more in line with business and industry than with environmentalists.

5 — Eni Taps Wind and Solar Farms to Boost Profit from Producing Oil – Bloomberg 5/3/18

<https://news.bloombergenvironment.com/environment-and-energy/eni-taps-wind-and-solar-farms-to-boost-profit-from-producing-oil>

Eni SpA is investing 1.2 billion euros (\$1.4 billion) in renewable energy, anticipating it can use power from wind and solar farms to cut the cost of producing oil. Italy's largest oil company is planning more than 60 projects across three continents that will produce at least 1 gigawatt of electricity by 2021. Those projects will be located in places where Eni already operates. They will supply both the local grid and the oil company's own operations.

6 — Are Plastic Bag Bans Really Creating Less Pollution? - Bloomberg 5/3/18

<https://news.bloombergenvironment.com/environment-and-energy/are-plastic-bag-bans-really-creating-less-pollution>

Environmentalists want to make the plastic bag a thing of the past. New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo (D) recently embraced a

proposed ban on single-use plastic grocery bags. If passed, New York would join California, as well more than 300 jurisdictions across 24 states and the District of Columbia, who have passed local bans on thin-film plastic bags.

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